



Working in Germany: the  
official website  
for qualified professionals

### Your chances:

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Congratulations! With a **vocational training** and a **binding job offer**, you have a good chance of working in Germany.

Citizens of Australia, Israel, Japan, Canada, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland or the USA do not require an entry visa to enter Germany. Once you are in Germany, you have **90 days** to apply for a residence permit for qualified employment. You may only take up employment if you have a corresponding residence permit. Apart from the binding job offer, the main prerequisite for this is the foreign professional qualification. You may want to inform yourself about the procedure and the process of applying for your visa or before entering Germany. Learn more about this in the [Recognition section](#)

### Your foreign vocational qualification has not yet been recognised?

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In such case you must first have your qualification recognised by the competent authority in Germany. You may enter Germany without a visa for **three months** and apply for recognition there. After the recognition, you can apply for the corresponding residence permit. Only then are you able to take up employment in Germany.

### Your foreign vocational qualification has already been recognised as equivalent?

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In such case you may enter Germany for **three months** without a visa and apply for a residence permit for qualified employment. After that you will be able to take up employment in Germany. If you would like to start working after arriving in Germany, you may want to apply for a [visa for qualified professionals](#) at the nearest German embassy before entering the country.

The following information might help you with your visa application:

- [At a glance: Work visa for qualified professionals](#) (PDF)
- [Checklist for qualified professionals](#) (PDF)

Tip: In order to shorten your immigration process, your future employer can pay to launch [arfast-track for skilled workers](#). You may want to inform him or her about the possibility.

### Do you require individual consultation?

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There are various ways to contact us:

- via [E-Mail](#)
- by telephone through our ["Hotline Working and Living in Germany"](#) (German, English)
- or contact the Virtual Welcome Center via [chat](#).